

GOP Floor Schedule: Another Week With No Action On Jobs

After 420 days without a jobs plan, House Republicans are continuing their streak by not bringing any jobs bills to the Floor this week. Instead of putting forward a comprehensive jobs plan, Republicans are considering bills that have nothing to do with putting more Americans back to work or growing our economy:

- H.R. 1433 - Private Property Rights Protection Act of 2012
- Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347 - Federal Restricted Buildings and Grounds Improvement Act of 2011
- H.R. 665 - Excess Federal Building and Property Disposal Act
- H.R. 3902 - To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia
- H.R. 2117 - Protecting Academic Freedom in Higher Education Act
- H.R. 1837 - San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act

What's missing from the list? Their partisan Highway to Nowhere bill, which GOP leadership pulled after facing a revolt in their divided Conference. It looks like Speaker Boehner's bill won't be appearing on the Floor any time soon as they attempt to retool a bill that destroys 550,000 jobs, rolls back safety and environmental standards, and fails to meet our nation's infrastructure needs:

- ***"A March 31 deadline looms to finish a surface-transportation reauthorization bill, but **that effort took a hit last week when House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, bowing to resistance from his conference, said he would scale back a five-year road, bridge, and transit construction bill.**"*** [National Journal, [2/27/12](#)]
- ***"The House is unlikely to consider a new version of a Republican highway bill when lawmakers return... GOP leaders are reworking the \$260 billion measure after **facing resistance from conservatives and centrists in the Republican conference**, along with blanket opposition from Democrats...Boehner had initially hoped to pass the legislation — a five-year reauthorization of the surface transportation programs — before the President's Day congressional recess."*** [The Hill, [2/25/12](#)]
- ***"Republicans privately acknowledged the problems with the bill lie not only in the House, where the transportation portion was expected to fail, but also within Boehner's own conference... The turmoil is the latest in a series of embarrassing unforced errors for Boehner on the transportation bill. Although the bill was intended to be his signature legislative policy proposal, **Boehner has struggled to pull together enough GOP votes to pass it.**"*** [Roll Call, [2/23/12](#)]
- ***"Facing a revolt in their ranks, House Republicans leaders are considering significantly downsizing a bill that was supposed to provide a long-term blueprint for federal highway, transit and other transportation programs. **The changes would mark a significant retreat from the \$260 billion bill House Republicans were trying to pass late last week.**"*** [AP, [2/23/12](#)]

And today, Republicans look to continue playing partisan games by offering their so-called "JOBS Act" – a repackaging of bills that have already passed the House. While Democrats support the bills included in the package, it is by no means a comprehensive jobs plan. The legislation simply repackages bills that are focused on one specific issue and have already passed through the House and gives them a new name. Instead of wasting time and taxpayer dollars by passing the same bills over and over again, it's time for Republicans to get serious about job creation and put forward a comprehensive plan to help put Americans back to work.

Office of Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer, 2/28/12